



Interview 1 **Hotel manager**

Ganesh RC, Royal Habitat Hotel



I run the Royal Habitat Hotel. We normally only have IT people staying here. We have 30 companies in our books. IT is booming like a rocket you know. Wireless Broadband is essential for all of the rooms.

Our housekeepers are from Bihar and Orissa (states) where there is much poverty. They could work hard in rural areas for 700INR a month (£9). They earn 2,500INR (£25) here. It is helping people all over India.

We cook Indian food here if guests want it. Nowadays most ask for KFC, Pizza and Coca Cola and we order it in. The young ones don't want masala dosas, idly or puri anymore.

Previously, I had my own business in a town far from here, a small provisions shop selling rice. I became lost. There are so many shops like this, so I moved to Bangalore and had an interview here.



My life has definitely improved. Four and a half years back I earned 3,000INR (£40) per month. Now, I'm earning four times more. I'm wearing fashion now. Before I wore a dhoti (cloth wrapped around the waist and legs) and kanga (large handkerchief type garment). Then when I came I wore a shirt and pants. Now I wear smart jeans and a loose shirt.

I came from a place where we washed from a bucket and used Indian toilets. People here want hot showers with all the gizmos. They like western toilets and they need air-conditioning and Sky TV. At home, in Ravandur we had just one channel and a generator.

Before I worked like 'obey-order'. Nowadays I take control because of my experience of meeting confident IT people. But being so global is also very bad for India. Sometimes it serves, but mostly it affects us. Farmers move to the city. Poor people are getting poorer; and richer people richer. And the rain isn't coming at the proper time now so more move to Bangalore.

Unemployment is high in rural places. You can earn double in Bangalore and the slum sides are growing and growing. It doesn't spread to rural areas like my place in Ravandur.

